

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION**  
**LOKSABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3326**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 15/03/2018**

**Desalination Plants in Coastal Areas**

†3326.SHRI KIRTI AZAD:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to install desalination plants in coastal areas to convert sea water into drinking water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented;
- (c) the estimated per litre price of drinking water produced from these plants; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to make the said technology of connecting sea water into drinking water popular?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION**  
**(SHRI S.S.AHLUWALIA)**

- (a) to (b) : The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has no scheme as of now to set up desalination plants in the coastal areas of the country for producing drinking water from sea water. As per the information received from National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), an autonomous body of the Ministry of Earth Sciences had indigenously developed and demonstrated Low temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) technology for conversion of sea water to drinking water. Three desalination plants based on LTTD technology had been successfully commissioned by NIOT between 2005 to 2011 in Union Territory of Lakshadweep. Further Union Territory of Lakshadweep is planning for installation of Six LTTD plants under technical supervision of NIOT, Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- (c) : As reported by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, according to the cost estimates made by an independent agency for LTTD technology indigenously developed and demonstrated by NIOT, the operational costs per litre of desalinated portable water is about 61 paise for island based plants.
- (d) : As reported by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, as a part of promotion and popularization, the models and display boards of LTTD plants are displayed in all the major exhibitions including India International Trade Fair, India International Science Festival, Indian Science Congress, Parliament of India etc.